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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 56/123 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity. It highlights the progress made with regard to the promotion of the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the three protocols thereto, and also describes the status of work regarding the negotiation of the draft United Nations convention against corruption, and reviews technical cooperation activities related to the global programmes against corruption, trafficking in human beings and transnational organized crime.

In addition, the report provides information on the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, and on the voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund received in 2001.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report, which has been prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 56/123, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", updates the information contained in the previous report (A/56/155).

2. Related documents before the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session are: (a) the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/57/135); (b) the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/57/___); (c) the report of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds (A/57/158); and (d) the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat (A/57/152).

II. Major developments

3. The tragic events of 11 September 2001 have alarmed the international criminal justice community and influenced its perspectives on security. In the light of those and other developments, terrorism and organized crime (drug and firearm trafficking, trafficking in persons), money-laundering and corruption have emerged dramatically not only as universal concerns but as global challenges requiring global responses. A strong consensus has emerged that such global security threats must be tackled expeditiously, comprehensively and with a lasting commitment. In addition, international cooperation is generally regarded as essential to the success of any such action.

III. Eleventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

4. In the above framework, during the eleventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, 16-25 April 2002), there was consensus among participants that the signing, ratification and coming into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols continued to be the main priority, to be pursued through both international action and domestic efforts. Similarly, there was widespread agreement for strengthened action against corruption and international terrorism.

5. The thematic discussion of the eleventh session of the Commission focused on the theme "The reform of the criminal justice system: achieving effectiveness and equity". A related one-day workshop, on the theme "Criminal justice reform: lessons learned, community involvement and restorative justice", was organized by the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes during that session. The Network's institutes held meetings with the Centre for International Crime Prevention to coordinate activities, as a follow-up to the sixteenth coordination meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held in Helsinki in December 2001. Those events provided a fruitful ground for exchange of ideas and proposals leading to supporting the major work priorities of the Programme.

6. The Commission recommended for adoption by the General Assembly four draft resolutions, entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto", "High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations Convention against Corruption", "Follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century" and "Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The Commission also recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council eight draft resolutions, entitled "Basic principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters", "Action to promote effective crime prevention", "Promoting effective measures to deal with the issues of missing children and sexual abuse or exploitation of children", "United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice", "International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in

providing assistance for the victims", "International cooperation, technical assistance and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice", "Illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora" and "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in preventing and combating terrorism".

IV. Promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto

7. By its resolution 55/25, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and two protocols thereto against the trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants. By its resolution 55/255, the Assembly also adopted a supplementary protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. In both resolutions, the Assembly urged all States and regional organizations to sign and ratify the instruments as soon as possible in order to ensure their speedy entry into force.

8. A report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the Convention and its three Protocols (E/CN.15/2002/10) was submitted to the Commission at its eleventh session. The Commission expressed strong support for the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in particular the efforts to support the ratification process, calling for increased contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund.

9. As of 15 June 2002, there were 141 signatories to the Convention, 105 signatories to the protocol against trafficking in persons, 101 signatories to the protocol against the smuggling of migrants, and 31 signatories to the protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. In addition, 15 States have ratified the Convention, 12 States have ratified the human trafficking protocol, 11 States have ratified the smuggling protocol and two States have ratified the protocol on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms. Several more countries have completed the ratification process but have not yet deposited their instruments of ratification.

10. The Centre has developed a strategy and a series of activities, focusing on both the political and substantive work that Governments would need to undertake in order to ratify the Convention and its protocols. A key goal of the strategy is the strengthening of the political momentum among States, expressed at the conclusion of the negotiations for the new instruments and by the number of opening signatories to the Convention, the highest ever for such an instrument.

11. In that context, the Centre has continued to provide assistance to Member States in undertaking the necessary steps leading to the ratification of the instruments. Two regional, 6 subregional and 10 national seminars have reviewed the legislative and other steps needed for the ratification of the instruments. Participants comprised experts with substantive responsibility for ratification efforts in competent government ministries or offices and ministers or high-level officials with political responsibility for those efforts. The seminars were conducted on the basis of a series of presentations developed by the Centre, with the use of a checklist of elements for ratification of the instruments.

12. To assess the needs of Member States, in cooperation with the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, the Centre prepared a questionnaire addressed to policy makers and legislation drafters which was distributed to participants at the seminars. The International Association of Prosecutors, in cooperation with the Centre, developed a more detailed questionnaire addressed to practitioners. Results from both questionnaires will be compiled for use in formulating future work and specific programmes for individual countries requesting assistance.

13. The Centre, with the support of the Government of Canada and in cooperation with the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, has begun the elaboration of a legislative guide for the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to be completed by the end of 2002. The elaboration of similar guides for the protocols to the Convention is envisaged with the assistance of the French and Italian Governments.

14. The efforts of the Centre in this area have been made possible by the support of several donors who pledged or made contributions. However, the capacity to provide pre-ratification and implementation assistance will be contingent upon continuous support by donor countries. In its resolution 56/120, the General Assembly renewed its call for adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to ratify and thereafter implement the Convention and its protocols.

V. Negotiation of the draft United Nations convention against corruption

15. Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 55/61 and 55/188, an intergovernmental open-ended expert group to prepare draft terms of reference for the negotiation of a future legal instrument against corruption met in Vienna from 30 July to 3 August 2001. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice reviewed and approved the recommendations of the expert group at its tenth resumed session, held on 6 and 7 September 2001. The draft terms of reference were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/260.

16. The General Assembly decided that an ad hoc Committee should negotiate a broad and effective United Nations convention against corruption. It should meet in Vienna in 2002 and 2003, holding no fewer than three two-week sessions in each year, and should complete its work by the end of 2003.

17. Accordingly, an ad hoc committee held an informal preparatory meeting in Buenos Aires from 4 to 7 December 2001. From 21 January to 1 February 2002 and 17 to 28 June 2002, the Ad Hoc Committee for the Convention against Corruption held its first two sessions in Vienna, at which it began reviewing a consolidated text of the draft convention against corruption, completing its first reading. In conjunction with the second session, a one-day workshop on the question of asset recovery was held.

18. At the first and second sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee and the eleventh session of the Commission, Member States supported an effective, efficient and universal instrument. They expressed the view that it should be flexible and balanced, taking into account the legal, social, cultural, economic and political differences among countries. It was also stressed that the Convention should have a multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach, and should strike a balance between prevention and law enforcement and lead to improved international cooperation.

VI. Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Criminal Justice

19. A separate report on the preparations for the Eleventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/57/___), which summarizes the substantive and organizational aspects of the preparations for the Congress, is before the Assembly.

VII. Other programme activities

A. Implementation of crime prevention and criminal justice standards and norms

20. The Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century underlined the important role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. The plan of action for the implementation and follow-up of the Declaration recommended, inter alia, the publishing by States of the Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the languages of their countries and the updating of the Compendium.

21. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued its efforts in this field to implement its mandates within the limitations of the resources available, bearing in mind the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a more balanced approach (see A/56/16). The promotion and dissemination of United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice standards and norms was also pursued through advisory services. The standards and norms formed the basis of the work of the Centre in the area of criminal justice reform on most issues,

including victims of crime, violence against women, penal reform, juvenile justice and peacekeeping. An overview of progress made in the use and application and further development of United Nations standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, as important tools for criminal justice reform, was brought to the attention of the Commission at its eleventh session (see E/CN.15/2002/3).

22. In addition, the Commission had before it the results of three surveys on the implementation of the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials (E/CN.15/2002/6/Add.1), the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions (E/CN.15/2002/6/Add.2) and the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security (E/CN.15/2002/11).

23. The Centre serviced two expert group meetings on the issues of restorative justice and effective community-based crime prevention, topics closely related to United Nations standards and norms. The reports of the meetings were presented to the Commission at its eleventh session (see E/CN.15/2002/4 and E/CN.15/2002/5/Add.1).

24. The Commission agreed that the Centre should be selective when developing new United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, responding to the pressing needs of the international criminal justice community, as required. In addition, it should focus its activities on the use and application of standards and norms in the context of technical assistance and in the overall context of United Nations programme priorities, including sustainable development, poverty alleviation and gender equality.

B. Preventing terrorism

25. In the area of terrorism prevention, due to resource constraints emphasis has been placed mainly on research and analysis. A report on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Centre for International Crime Prevention is before the General Assembly (A/57/152). Two publications prepared by the Centre were issued by the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council in 2001: *The Rule of Law in the Global Village: Issues of Sovereignty and Universality* and *Countering Terrorism through International Cooperation*.

26. Two databases on terrorism, one dealing with terrorist incidents and the other with counter-terrorist initiatives and developments of a unilateral, bilateral and multilateral nature, are currently maintained and regularly updated. Summaries of the incidents and counter-terrorist initiatives and developments are made available, on a regular basis, to the staff of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council. Work has been initiated on a database on best practices and lessons learned.

27. A conference was jointly co-sponsored by the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the United Nations Secretariat and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on the theme "Enhancing security and stability in Central Asia: strengthening comprehensive efforts to counter terrorism" (Bishkek, 13 and 14 December 2001). The conference adopted a declaration and a plan of action in which, inter alia, it emphasized that terrorism was a complex challenge owing to its links with transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, money-laundering, arms trafficking, computer and other high-technology crimes, as well as other threats, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

28. A separate report (A/57/152) provides additional information, including the convening of a symposium on the theme "Combating international terrorism: the contribution of the United Nations".

C. Illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives by criminals and their use for criminal purposes

29. As requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/127, an intergovernmental group of experts was convened to conduct a study on the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in explosives by criminals and their use for criminal purposes. The group met twice during 2001, conducting a survey and other research. The group noted the serious threat posed by criminal misuse of explosives and the strict measures already in effect in most Member States to prevent this. It recommended a series of legislative, safety and security measures to establish or strengthen national controls on explosives, as well as further

research on marking and other measures to support criminal investigations, as reported to the eleventh session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (see E/CN.15/2002/9 and Add.1). Discussion at the Commission documented various concerns about the question of explosives, which may still have to be addressed in due course, if and when so decided.

D. High-technology and computer-related crime

30. In its resolution 56/121, the General Assembly noted the necessity of preventing the criminal misuse of information technologies and deferred further consideration of this subject matter pending work envisioned in the plan of action against high-technology and computer-related crime of the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. At its eleventh session, the Commission considered a report on effective measures to prevent and control computer-related crime (E/CN.15/2002/9). The need for technical assistance was highlighted, including training and knowledge transfer, in order to build national capacity to prevent and investigate computer-related crime and to enable countries to become fully involved in international cooperation efforts.

E. Collection and dissemination of information

31. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued its efforts for the collection, analysis and dissemination of relevant data and information. In June 2001, it published electronically updates of the responses to the Sixth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (accessible at http://www.odccp.org/crime_cicp_survey_sixth.html). The updated version increased the number of Governments providing official data on police, prosecution, courts, prisons and resource allocation from 75 to 83.

32. The periodic surveys are the primary vehicle used by the Centre for the collection of statistics on crime trends and criminal justice at the national level. The Seventh United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, covering the years 1998-2000, is currently under way. As of December 2001, 65 Governments had submitted data.

33. The Centre continued to expand its efforts to disseminate information by electronic means, through its web site at http://www.odccp.org/crime_prevention.html. A new series of publications is now available at http://www.odccp.org/corruption.html/publications. The web site has also been equipped with state-of-the-art multimedia offerings, such as video clips on trafficking (http://multimedia.undcp.org/ramgen/psa_humantrafficking-60-768x576.rm).

34. In 2001, the Centre launched a peer-review academic journal on global crime and criminal justice issues, *Forum on Crime and Society*, published twice a year in the six official languages of the United Nations. Its distribution in the Arab countries was achieved through the Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences. The first issue contained articles based on contributions to the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders. The second issue contained articles on transnational organized crime. The latest issue is devoted to the theme of corruption.

35. Research in this area focuses on aspects of public sector corruption and its links with organized crime in its different forms. The Centre collects and analyses data and continually monitors the status of trends in crime, terrorism and corruption worldwide from various countries, collaborating with governmental agencies and research and scientific institutions.

VIII. Technical cooperation

A. Overview

36. In 2001, the Centre for International Crime Prevention supported projects with a total budget value of approximately $6 million (see table 1).

37. The Centre's technical cooperation programme expanded from five projects in 1998 to 32 in 2001 (ongoing and planned). Technical cooperation work was complementary to promoting the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto. The Centre's global programmes against transnational organized crime, trafficking in human beings and corruption were revised to incorporate lessons learned since their launch in 1999.

38. A more balanced approach is being pursued in all Centre activities, including technical cooperation activities, pursuant to the deliberations of the Commission at its tenth session and the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-sixth session.[1] In accordance with the overall objective and strategies laid out in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005[2] and the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 (see A/56/6, sect. 14), the main technical cooperation priorities include fostering international cooperation and the strengthening of national capacity:

(a) To combat transnational organized crime through promoting ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto. Technical assistance activities include support for its States parties in collecting and disseminating information on trends and proven practices, with priority attention to legal and institutional arrangements to address organized crime and provisions for international cooperation;

(b) To combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children. Special attention is given to collecting information on global trends and proven practices. Technical assistance modules are being developed for improved criminal justice responses to trafficking, including enhanced capacity of specialized police units against human trafficking and inter-agency cooperation with civil society to improve assistance to and protection of victims and witnesses;

(c) To combat corruption, through the development of evidence-based and comprehensive anti-corruption policies and measures, as well as the provision of technical assistance. The United Nations manual on practical measures against corruption is being revised, and a tool kit and other materials are being devised to assist countries in developing anti-corruption strategies, building capacity to investigate and prosecute corruption and enhancing the integrity of key institutions, such as the judiciary;

(d) To strengthen capacity-building and national institutions in other crime and justice areas, such as juvenile justice, victim issues, prison administration, violence against women, restorative justice and crime prevention measures, pursuant to the recent plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration;

(e) To prevent terrorism, by ratifying or acceding to and implementing the 12 global legal instruments against terrorism and implementing elements of the plan of action against terrorism (see General Assembly resolution 56/261, annex), developed to implement and follow up the 2000 Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice. The focus of the Centre's efforts will be on providing technical assistance to support ratification, accession and implementation of the instruments, awareness-raising at the level of policy makers, preparation of model laws, institution-building and legislative assistance, and strengthening existing arrangements in the field of extradition and mutual legal assistance.

39. The capacity to deliver technical assistance is enhanced at the operational level whenever there is an active presence in the field. In that context, a number of selected offices of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme have been converted to represent the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/24. Thus, the Centre is represented in five regional offices — South-East Asia, Southern Africa, North Africa and the Middle East, West Africa — and three national field offices — Brazil, Colombia and Nigeria.

B. Global programme against corruption

40. The approach of the Centre for International Crime Prevention is to help Member States with: (a) assessing corruption with special focus on the criminal justice system, including the courts; (b) promoting integrity, efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system; and (c) facilitating a comprehensive, evidence-based and integrated approach, in collaboration with other donors and key stakeholders.

41. Priority activities identified to achieve those outcomes are: (a) *technical assistance*, by developing pilot projects in the five regions of the world; (b) *research*, by collecting and analysing global trends of corruption, especially focusing on benchmarking; (c) *dissemination of best practices* through the revision of the United Nations manual for anti-corruption policy, the distribution of a United Nations anti-corruption tool kit and handbooks for prosecutors, investigators and judges, as well as through a web page

Table 1
CICP-funded technical cooperation projects, 2001

Country or area	*Project*	*Total budget*
Global	Pre-ratification assistance to the signatories of the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime	1 836 250
Global	Database on flows of trafficking in human beings	146 900
Brazil	Measures to combat trafficking in human beings	400 000
Colombia	Preparatory assistance: building an integrity system to prevent corruption	61 698
Hungary	Assessment of corruption in Hungary	175 263
Lebanon	Support for the national anti-corruption strategy	305 551
	Strengthening the legislative and institutional capacity for juvenile justice	754 049
Nigeria	Strengthening judicial integrity and capacity	293 968
Philippines	Coalitions against trafficking in human beings in the Philippines	269 312
South Africa	Mechanisms to counteract domestic violence	660 000
	Measures to counteract organized crime	414 000
	Donor coordination in the field of criminal justice	40 000
	Support for the National Anti-Corruption Programme	359 340
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Preventing and controlling economic and financial crime	330 000
West Africa: Benin, Nigeria, Togo	Measures to combat trafficking in human beings in Benin, Nigeria and Togo	296 399
Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal	Assessment of transnational organized crime	68 478
Central Asia	Assessment of transnational organized crime	64 636
Eastern Europe (Czech Republic and Poland)	Criminal justice responses to trafficking in human beings	519 348
Total		**5 715 567**

with Centre publications; (d) *work on judicial integrity*, by facilitating the work of a Chief Justice leadership group, comprised of eight Chief Justices from common law countries in Asia and Africa. The tools for the project are currently being pilot tested in Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Uganda. A meeting to establish a similar leadership group for civil law countries is also planned, in partnership with Transparency International.

42. The Centre held the first and second Inter-Agency Meeting on Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Vienna on 4 and 5 February 2002, and on 1 and 2 July 2002, respectively. It is hoped that this initiative will increase coordination and collaboration among all multilateral agencies involved in helping Member States build integrity to fight corruption through good governance programmes and sound public administration. In addition to United Nations system entities, the meetings were attended by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Union, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Council of Europe.

43. Projects are under way in Colombia, Hungary, Lebanon, Nigeria and South Africa and are being

elaborated for Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Romania, Sri Lanka and Uganda. In Colombia, a preparatory assistance project in 2001 led to a fully fledged two-year anti-corruption project, which aims to strengthen the rule of law at the local government level as a pilot that may be replicated at the national level. Its objective is to increase the capacity and integrity of local government institutions, through social control mechanisms that strengthen prosecutorial capacity and implement results-based management. In Nigeria, a project for strengthening judicial integrity aims to strengthen the rule of law. The Centre assisted in organizing a federal integrity meeting for chief justices, during which three pilot States and pilot courts were identified, and a methodology on how to assess types, levels, causes and cost of and remedies for corruption was endorsed for testing in the pilot States. Subsequently, the Centre launched the project's pilot activities in three States. In South Africa, a project on the theme "Support to the national anti-corruption programme" began in 2001. It is designed to assist the Government of South Africa in its efforts to prevent, detect and fight corruption and promote integrity, transparency, accountability and the rule of law. The Centre assisted the Government in (a) the preparation of a national anti-corruption strategy and action plan; (b) drafting anti-corruption legislation; (c) assisting specialized investigating and prosecutorial units; and (d) in the development and implementation of anti-corruption initiatives in two selected provinces.

C. Global programme against trafficking in human beings

44. The adoption of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols addressing trafficking and the smuggling of persons by the General Assembly in November 2000 was very important for the work of the programme. The legal definitions of those activities have been largely accepted by Member States and international organizations addressing trafficking issues. In several countries, the provisions of the Convention and the trafficking protocol have not only guided legislation reform but also offered a framework for the formulation of regional and national anti-trafficking action plans. At present, technical assistance projects are being carried out or developed in several countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

45. In Brazil, a project on assessing the routes and modalities used by organized criminal groups, improving law enforcement responses and victim support, has been developed in collaboration with the Government. Ongoing Centre projects in the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia aim to assist the authorities in reforming human trafficking-related legislation, strengthen investigation and prosecution capacity in trafficking cases and provision of assistance to victims. The project in the Philippines included assessment of the problem, awareness-raising and training sessions for law enforcement officers and workshops on improved police-prosecutor cooperation. Follow-up activities are under consideration, including developing specific measures for victim and witness support. Projects for western Africa are under preparation.

46. The programme has initiated work on a database, including data from multiple sources on global trafficking trends, cross-national routes and volume of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, as well as data on victims and offenders of trafficking and responses of criminal justice systems to this criminal activity. The analysis of data will result in regular reports presenting trends on the national, regional and global level. Jointly with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the programme is currently conducting research and assessment activities targeting the practices and the role of organized criminal groups in trafficking of human beings. It has developed research tools aimed at generating data on recruitment practices, travel routes, exploitation, criminal organizations and connivance and corruption. Instruments have been developed for use in interviewing victims, government officials and non-governmental organizations. Partnerships were established with the network of institutes and organizations cooperating with the Centre and UNICRI, in particular the Australian Institute of Criminology and the United Nations University, as well as relevant government agencies, local research institutions and individual scholars. The Centre also supported the implementation of a project of the International Organization for Migration involving trafficking in women and children from Tajikistan.

47. A related major development in 2001 was the formulation of a political declaration and action plan against trafficking in human beings for the member

States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), elaborated with the support of the Centre. The plan of action sets achievable goals and objectives, calling on ECOWAS States to ratify and fully implement international instruments of ECOWAS and the United Nations.

48. In October 2001, the Government of the Philippines launched a strategic action plan for a national coalition against trafficking in human beings. The main features of the national action plan provide, inter alia, for the early ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocol against trafficking in persons; a special bill against trafficking in persons; strengthened investigation and prosecution of trafficking cases through specialized databases, specialized law enforcement units and improved police-prosecutor cooperation; training for law enforcers, prosecutors, social workers and frontline officers, as well as staff of embassies and consulates; improved support for victims and the protection of witnesses in cases of trafficking in persons; and comprehensive public awareness campaigns on the subject.

D. Global programme against transnational organized crime

49. In cooperation with UNICRI, the Centre has launched a survey on transnational organized crime to assess organized criminal groups. Information has been collected on 40 transnational organized criminal groups most active in the countries and the subregion. The instruments to collect data have been modified in consultation with UNICRI, the Falcone project of the European Union and Europol. Those new instruments are being tested for collecting information on organized criminal groups in two regional projects in West Africa and Central Asia (see para. 50 below). The assessment of organized criminal groups has resulted in the development of a series of standard typologies of those groups, enabling the programme to be able to classify and thus more effectively monitor trends in transnational organized crime.

50. Two regional projects are under way which aim at the collection of relevant information on the most prominent organized criminal groups. The first addresses the phenomenon of transnational organized crime groups active in selected countries of the West African region (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan) and their transnational dimension. The projects will provide a systematic collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data and information on organized crime groups operating in the region. They will also identify the most appropriate control measures to combat and prevent organized crime.

51. In 1999, a project was launched in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to tackle economic and financial crime through strengthened legal provisions and the establishment of a specialized police unit. The amendments to the Constitution, the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedural Code were submitted to the Parliament for approval in 2001. A model programme for training seminars on fighting organized crime following the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was developed. The programme has been successfully tested in Colombia, Croatia, Guatemala, Peru and Slovakia. The seminars examined best practices to fight organized crime and corruption in relation to police and prosecutors' investigations, international cooperation, collaboration with and protection of witnesses, prevention of organized crime and anti-organized crime legislation. The pilot seminars were evaluated positively by participants and will be replicated in other countries.

E. Crime prevention and juvenile justice

52. The Centre for International Crime Prevention continued the implementation of the project to strengthen the institutional capacity for juvenile justice in Lebanon. The project supported the reform of legislation on juveniles and the establishment of systems for the monitoring, follow-up and reintegration of juveniles upon release. A follow-up project has been designed by the Centre together with the Government, and is expected to commence in 2002. It aims at improving services and detention conditions for female juveniles in Lebanon. A juvenile justice sector project proposal for Egypt has also been designed. Subject to donor contributions, the project may start in 2002. The Centre continued to provide technical support for the implementation of a project aimed at reducing violence against women in South Africa.

53. The Afghan Interim Administration is setting in motion processes to re-establish national institutions, in

particular also in the legal and judicial areas. At its request, the Centre undertook a field mission to Kabul to develop a project proposal for technical assistance focusing on the development of legal and judicial frameworks. The project includes advisory services on legislative reform, international judicial cooperation and the establishment and management of institutions for juveniles deprived of their liberty. The Governments of Italy and Austria have indicated their interest in funding the project.

IX. Resource mobilization

54. The goal of the Centre for International Crime Prevention to broaden its donor base by encouraging donors to increase their voluntary contributions has been quite successful. Informal donors meetings were organized in 2001 and 2002. The contributions and pledges provided to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund from January 2001 to June 2002 equalled $5,285,860 (see table 2). However, $4.8 million — or 91 per cent of those contributions — were earmarked for specific projects or activities. Such high levels of earmarking severely curtail the capacity of the Centre to maintain the minimum infrastructure to support the development and implementation of its technical cooperation, and run the risk of jeopardizing the implementation of projects and activities to be undertaken with earmarked funds. In order to guarantee a minimum implementation capacity, donors should be encouraged to provide non-earmarked funds as well. Ideally, a minimum of 25 per cent of contributions to the Fund should not be earmarked.

Table 2
Contributions and pledges to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, January 2001-June 2002
(United States dollars)

Country	*Total amount pledged*
Austria	75 717[a]
Brazil	300 000[b]
Canada	114 959[a]
Chile	15 000[b]
France	615 775[b]
Greece	30 000[a]
India	6 000[c]
Italy	457 187[b]
Japan	200 000[a]
Malta	2 500[c]
Morocco	4 000[c]
Netherlands	699 299[b]
Norway	309 655[a]
Republic of Korea	25 000[a]
Tunisia	2 000[c]
Turkey	50 000[c]
United Kingdom	298 659[a]
United States of America	2 076 025[b]
Venezuela	4 084[c]
Total	**5 285 860**

[a] Paid.
[b] Paid in part.
[c] Not paid.

X. Conclusions and recommendations

55. **In the light of the foregoing review, the conclusions set out below may be drawn. First, in the period under review the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme has increasingly reoriented its activities towards technical assistance work in all its aspects. Second, in that context there have been constructive developments concerning the ratification process of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Third, progress has started and is advancing in connection with the negotiation of a draft convention against corruption. Fourth, considerable progress has also been made in the area of terrorism prevention, including well-focused policy recommendations on technical assistance for the implementation of the existing conventions. Fifth, crime prevention and criminal justice reforms have received increased attention. Last but not least, the programme continued to improve its funding base, thus expanding its technical cooperation activities. To further build upon and enhance the progress so far made it will be necessary to encourage:**

(a) sustained action by the intergovernmental bodies to reinforce the current programme of work focused on key priority areas; (b) continued efforts to provide additional resources to match the existing mandates so as to ensure the availability of a core capacity to deliver a high-quality service to member States, including technical assistance to countries in need; and (c) further efforts to increase the volume of voluntary contributions for the provision of technical cooperation activities, including general purpose funds, by targeting additional potential donors and the private sector.

56. **In that context, the General Assembly may wish to:**

(a) Call for a further concerted effort to strengthening the programme's capacity to provide leadership and services in key priority areas focused on organized crime, corruption and criminal justice reform, terrorism, computer-related and other high-technology crime;

(b) Invite Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme for the benefit of the criminal justice community;

(c) Reinforce the technical assistance focus of the Programme's activities by urging Member States, international financial institutions and the private sector to increase their contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund so as to expand its impact and outreach, including at the field level.

Notes

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/56/16).

[2] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).